Th[illegible] Undertaker's Tale 1870's Fiction Not used Tale.

[illegible] suddenly upon [illegible], but wandered into it in a natural way — I & my pleasant new acquaintance. He said it "was about this way" — & began:

Toward nightfall on the 14th of January, 18—, I trudged into the poor little village of Hydesburg. I had walked far, that day, at least it seemed far for a half-starved boy of fifteen to have come. I had lain in a barn the night before, & been discovered & roughly driven away early in the morning. I had begged for food & shelter at three farm houses during the day, but had been refused. At the last place the chil-

dren set the dogs o
& I was glad to g
with some loss of
& a part of my r
I was very hungr
& very tired. The
made by the dogs w
stiff & painful. I
been an outcast for a
& had fared harshly a
time. I was hopel
now, & afraid to sup
cate at any door.

The darkness a
on, the outlines of th
lage houses grew v
the lights began to t
in the windows. The
swept the street in f
gusts, driving a sto
snow & sleet befor
I stopped in front of